

Tucson Water's

# Long Range Water Resource Planning

Water for  
Tucson's Future



## Water Conservation

### Conservation is an Important Part of Our Water Future

Making more efficient use of our water sources through conservation has proven to be economical and an environmentally responsible way to help manage Tucson's growing demand for water. Over the years, we have all learned to be good stewards of our water - this valuable and limited natural resource. In fact, we've become world-class water savers, using only about 163 gallons of potable water per person per day. Just like our customers, Tucson Water is committed to promoting wise water use and working in a number of ways to help our customers be water smart. As we plan for the future, Tucson Water is basing its water use projections in large part on the average amount of water used each day by each of its customers. Maintaining the community water conservation ethic that we've all established over the years will be an important part of making sure we have enough water for the future.

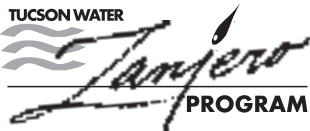
### Tucson Water Encourages Wise Water Use in a Number of Ways Education and Tips

For more than 27 years, Pete the Beak, Tucson Water's Duck Mascot, has carried his water saving tips throughout the community with the **Beat the Peak** program. But Pete and his message is only the most recognizable of many programs offered by Tucson Water that teach the ethic of water conservation. It's also been taught in hundreds of classrooms at elementary, middle and high schools through a variety of outreach programs designed for students. Teachers also get the message from Tucson Water via programs like **Project WET** and our **Summer Teacher Internship**. We provide or sponsor educational materials and teachers' guides for schools across southern Arizona. All in all our public education programs remind hundreds of thousands of people each year of the importance of using water wisely and provide tips and guidance on how to do that without significantly altering customers' lifestyles.



### Direct Assistance

In addition to information, Tucson Water provides customers with assistance in changing their water use patterns. Two of the most effective programs in this area are our **Zanjeros**, conservation specialists who provide in-home water audits, and the **Water\$mart Landscape Workshop** series offered each spring and fall in association with the University of Arizona Pima County Extension Low 4 Program. Both of these programs are free to both residential and commercial customers and offer hands-on training or assistance in reducing water use at your home or business. For more information, call Tucson Water's Public Information Office at 791-4331. To schedule a visit by the Zanjeros to your home, call 791-3242.



## Incentives

One of the most effective incentives for water conservation offered by Tucson Water is our water rate structure. Water rates are set to reward customers who use less water with a lower cost per gallon. The rates increase as water use increases, with customers who use the most water paying the highest rates.

For more detailed information about Tucson Water's rate structure and how it encourages water conservation, visit our website at [www.cityoftucson.org/water](http://www.cityoftucson.org/water).

## Mandatory Ordinances

Over the years, Tucson Water has proposed and Tucson's Mayor and Council have passed a number of ordinances that mandate certain water saving measures. The **Xeriscape Ordinance** limits the amount of high-water use landscaping that can be used in the design of new commercial and multi-family residential buildings. The **Plumbing Ordinance** requires that low-flow fixtures be installed in all new homes and businesses. These ordinances have helped assure that much of the new construction in Tucson is designed, built and landscaped with wise water use in mind. The **Water Waste Ordinance** makes it illegal to allow water to flow off property or into non-landscaped areas. Finally there's the ordinance we've never had to use. The **Emergency Water Conservation Ordinance** allows Tucson's Mayor and Council to prohibit or restrict outdoor water use in the event of a water supply emergency.

## Two things to know to help you be water wise...

### Xeriscaping

One way Tucsonans have made water conservation work in a big way is by doing more landscaping with low water use vegetation and water saving techniques. Because about half of all the water we use during Tucson's hot summers is used in the yard, xeriscaping is a great way to reduce water use in the summer months and still have a beautiful landscape.

There are other advantages to xeriscaping. Using native and drought-tolerant plants generally means less fertilizer and fewer pest control measures will be required than traditional landscapes. Also, there's often less pruning and trimming required with these types of plants.

Learn more about xeriscaping by contacting Tucson Water's Conservation Office at 791-4331.

### The Zanjeros

Tucson Water's Zanjeros are a team of specially trained water conservation professionals who will visit your home and work with you to help make sure you're using water wisely. This free service offers customers an individualized survey of the water use in their home and provides them with the tools and information they need to reduce their water use and reduce water bills.

For more information or to schedule a free visit by Tucson Water's Zanjeros to your home or business, call 791-3242.

For more information about Tucson Water's Long Range Water Resource Planning, call us at 791-2666 or visit our web site at [www.cityoftucson.org/water](http://www.cityoftucson.org/water).